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NEWS

18 people displaced after multi-unit apartment fire in Havelock

Peterborough County OPP say one person has been arrested and charged with arson.

Updated April 24, 2024 at 12:03 p.m. | April 24, 2024

Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Township chief building official posts a notice as Peterborough County OPP investigate an apartment fire at 37 George St. E. in Havelock on Tuesday, April 23, 2024.

Clifford Skarstedt Peterborough Examiner

By Metroland Staff

Eighteen people have been displaced from their homes and one person faces arson charges after fire gutted a section of a multi-unit apartment building in Havelock on Tuesday night.

Firefighters responded to a blaze on George Street East in the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen on April 23 around 7:30 p.m.

Peterborough County OPP say officers went to the scene, where fire crews were dealing with a fully engulfed structure fire.

An OPP release said the building was safely evacuated and "no injuries were reported."

The Peterborough Examiner has a reporter on the scene and has learned that 18 people, along with some pets, have been displaced as a result of the fire.

"Upon speaking to the complainant, investigations revealed that after an argument, a known individual uttered threats to the complainant and exited the building," said OPP.

Directly after, the building was engulfed in flames, added OPP. A description of the suspect was provided to officers.

"At approximately 7:30 p.m., officers received a call about a suspicious person and located the individual a short distance away from the scene," said OPP.

A 29-year-old male from Havelock was arrested and charged with:

- Arson — disregard for human life
- Failure to comply with probation order — two counts
- Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose
- Uttering threats — damage property

The name of the accused will not be released to protect the identity of the victim.

The accused was held for bail and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Peterborough.

The Office of the Fire Marshal was contacted and will investigate, said OPP. Police will remain during the investigation.

If you have information about suspected unlawful activity, visit Crime Stoppers at stopcrimehere.ca or call 1-800-222-8477.

*Contact Metroland Staff at **thenewsroom@metroland.com**.*

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